

Dual Enrollment offers high school students a running start

By Bo Carver

Students have an opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school through the dual enrollment program at Shelton State Community College. In this exploration of the dual enrollment process many questions will be answered that can benefit students.

Dual Enrollment here at Shelton is a program for high school students who want to get a head start in college. The students who participate in the program receive credit both for their high school and for college, unlike the accelerated program which rewards college credits alone to students.

Shelton State is a fully accredited institution; therefore, credits from the dual enrollment experience can transfer as according to STARS. There are 24 students in the dual enrollment program this fall; many of these students are participating in the technical pro-

See Dual
Page 3

Bingo!



Tommy Hester has become a legend in the bingo-calling field—especially at the annual BBQ Bash at Shelton State. The Bash raises thousands of dollars for scholarships via the Shelton Foundation.

Shelton nursing students lend evacuees a helping hand



Shelton nursing student Amy Ballard comforts two of her charges, evacuees of Katrina, at the U.A. Rec. Center

By Matt Celozzi,
Editor

Cassie Clark is a student in Sandra Warren's nursing psychology class. Ordinarily, she and her peers do their clinical volunteer work at Bryce Hospital. But on September 9 and 10, while volunteering with the evacuees at the University of Alabama Rec. Center, she witnessed an act of kindness

that she will never forget. "I met two of the strongest willed men on Friday. They were brothers-in-law, both in their seventies, and they were trying to get things set up for their family of twenty-two. I was able to witness someone donate a car to them, and the men wept with joy."

See Nursing
Page 2

BBQ Bash continues to pull 'em in as premier foundation event

With hundreds of barbecue fans, bingo aficionados and Shelton State supporters in attendance on Thursday night, Sept. 22, the annual BBQ Bash at Shelton State continued its tradition of raising thousands of dollars for scholarships to the college.



Low Drummond, Executive Director of the Office of Advancement at Shelton, reported that \$20,340 was raised at the events, including nearly \$3,000 at a silent auction of vehicles ranging from a Cadillac to a riding lawnmower.

"We broke some records this year," Drummond said. "We had double the number

See BBQ
Page 5

Inside The Courier

•Momentous year for musician ends in his death...Page 6

•Original *Courier* editor discusses changes in journalism profession...Page 2

•Non-violence scholar lectures at the college...Page 3



Founding *Courier* editor sees big changes in profession

By Bo Carver

Part two of a 2-part series. In this installment, Mason discusses entrepreneurial changes in the journalism profession

Mason has worked in business, sports and special sections during the past 12 years in Jacksonville, where he currently resides with his wife, Penny, and dog, Homer.

He has been the Special Sections editor for the past six years. During this time, the *Times-Union* has won 23 Inland Press Association National Special Sections Network awards among the largest daily newspapers in the United States and Canada, including six this year (the most among any newspaper with circulations greater than 100,000).

Even though Mason no longer works in the sports department, the one first-place award the *Times-Union* won this year was for its Super Bowl XXXIX package which included the 104-page magazine-style Super Bowl Visitors Guide headed up by the former *Courier* editor. Jacksonville hosted the NFL's biggest event for the first time in February.

"I have been blessed with the opportunity to work for a great boss [Joe DeSalvo], and have a very talented staff of writers, photographers and designers," Mason said. "Our department has grown tremendously during the past six years. Newspapers no longer can rely solely on the daily coverage. Special sections, partnerships with television and an online presence also play major roles by providing newspapers additional sources of revenue."

The *Times-Union* special sections staff handles 37 business spotlight stories a week, plus weekly real estate, auto and employment sections, and approximately 70 special sections a year. The *Florida Times-Union* has a daily circulation of approximately 155,000 and 225,000 on



During a recent visit to the *Courier* office, Stuart Mason chatted about the state of the profession

Sundays.

Mason's sister, Lori Swindle, has worked at Shelton State since 1979. She worked in Library Services from 1979-1997 and is now employed in personnel. Mason credits his sister with getting him into newspaper business.

"When I was still in the ninth grade, Lori suggested I become a sports writer for the Blue-White [Tuscaloosa County High's student newspaper] and put in a good word with the academic adviser [Sandra Hampel]. She also talked Tom Umphrey into buying an ad for Shelton State and placing it into the Blue-White. She basically opened the door for me and allowed me to have a long and successful career in the newspaper. I wonder if I would be qualified to work in any other business?"

Nursing from Page 1

This scene of charity is just one of the many memories that the students will no doubt keep with them forever.

As Hurricane Katrina bore down on America's Gulf Coast, thousands of people evacuated Louisiana and Mississippi to seek shelter elsewhere. As many as 10,000 evacuees descended on Tuscaloosa, some by sheer coincidence. The University quickly assembled a shelter at their Recreation Center on campus, and about 700 people were given a place to stay. The American Red Cross oversaw operations at the shelter.

On day one, the students were given various assignments as they signed in. Some were to be "runners", some to police the entrances, and others cared for children. A makeshift nursing station was set up in a bathroom. Boxes of supplies littered the floors and the volunteers worked quickly to organize the cache of goods.

As the clients began to pour in to the nursing station, the young and elderly were given priority. The evacuees suffered from various maladies including headaches, high blood pressure and numerous colds

and allergies. Each client was documented before they saw the doctor. One woman in particular was in the early stages of pregnancy and complaining of abdominal pain. One of the nursing students used her

work, housing, etc. The goal was to have one child per nurse, but that became impossible with the sheer number of children at the shelter. "We ended up having many more children than expected. At one time



Some 700 evacuees of Hurricane Katrina were housed in the Rec. Center at the U.A. campus.

own car to transport the woman to a doctor. This process continued for the rest of the day.

On Friday, the students shifted their focus to psychological interaction with the victims. Kevin Burns, a psychology instructor here at Shelton State, was their contact at the shelter. He met with the instructors and students to orient them to what was expected of them and how to deal with people in this situation. Most of the students were assigned to watch children while their parents left to search for

we had about fifteen. At the end of the day I was so exhausted" said Clark.

Many of the volunteers also used their own transportation to take people to doctors in town, as well as to search for clothing and housing. But throughout the day, the students listened to the victims' stories and were touched by the tales of tragedy, survival and hope. Kimberly Sanyoz remembers one in particular. "I will

**See Nursing
Page 4**

Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working

with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Dual From Page 1

gram at Shelton State. One of the 27 different technical programs can provide students with an ideal start to a promising and rewarding career, or the experiences these students have can build a firm foundation from which they can step into their futures.



Steve Fair, Assistant Dean for Technical Education, says the dual enrollment program is especially helpful to tech students.

Many students participate in the technical programs to get a great head start on their careers. Steve Fair, Associate Dean of Technical Services, began his career at Shelton State, and even took his first classes on the old Shelton State campus.

"Some things not seen on the surface of the technical field are the benefits of teaching students technical skills. They learn discipline and communications skills, and build self-confidence and good work ethic," said Fair. "It (the program) will give students a jump start in pursuing goals and get them in the work force faster."

Rick Byrne, a senior at Hillcrest high school, said, "This program is much more in depth than others and offers more flexibility and hands-on experience. I would (recommend dual enrollment); it's a great program."

Byrne is now taking advantage of the welding program here at Shelton State. Welding is only one of a broad offering of technical

courses which can range from service to heavy industrial operations.

"Almost everyone interested in a technical career can find a course," Fair said.

Dual enrollment can be a focus on many different courses, and it's all up to the individual student's interests.

In a recent interview with Lew Drummond, Director of the Office of Advancement,

this reporter was enlightened on dual enrollment. The typical cost of college is approximately \$300 a credit hour, while at Shelton State it is only about \$90; earning this college credit while in high school at Shelton saves

families money.

"I personally believe this (program) can show families the value of a college education. It's been proven that this kind of exposure has a positive impact on students' futures," Drummond said. "This program offers a bridge between high school and college. One of the greatest opportunities is gaining an appreciation for the technical and traditional programs."

Dual enrollment offers a wide variety of classes, whether it be traditional college curriculum or technical studies, the high school students can participate in. The program is offered to any high school student who meets both the Alabama State Board of Education's and each individual school system's requirements. Shelton State is planning to form a stronger partnership with all the high schools in its seven county area.

"I would like to see every high school in our service area to participate in the dual enrollment program," Drummond said.

Noted scholar teaches non-violence theory

Thirty-seven years after the senseless assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., much debate is still had regarding the best ways to implement his wisdom. On September 30, Dr. K. P. S. Kamath gave a lecture at Shelton State entitled "Realizing the Dream: Non-violent Techniques in the Twenty-First Century". Dr. Kamath is a private psychologist and a renowned orator in the fields of stress management and non-violence.

During the 90-minute presentation, Dr. Kamath discussed the teachings of King as well as Mahatma Gandhi and their foundation in non-violent techniques. He stressed the need for one to first look inward and

reform himself before attempting to implement social change.

Dr. Kamath also discussed some of the social injustice we live amongst,



Dr. K.P.S. Kamath chats with librarian Debbie Grimes before his presentation.

most importantly racism. He noted that, "while blatant discrimination has decreased dramatically in recent generations, racial injustice is still a plague in

our society. But Kamath also contends that victims can often be as much to blame as the perpetrators because they become comfortable with a victim status and unwilling to demand change. He recommends that people can fight racism by exposing it when its observed, networking with others who share similar views, and raising awareness through media forums like newspapers.

For those interested in the philosophies of Gandhi and King, Kamath recommends their respective autobiographies and Bondurant's *Conquest of Violence*.

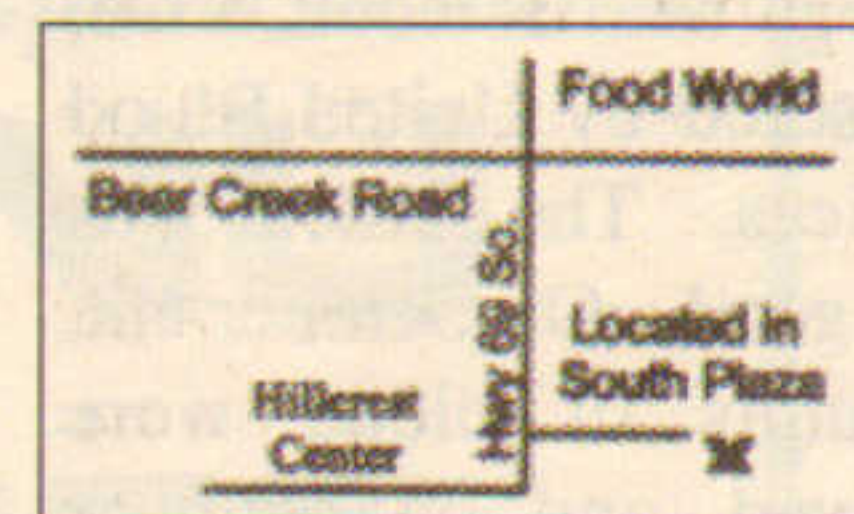
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Ready to share their "shear artistry" are (Back L-R) Sondra Keeton, Adrienne Gann, Melonie Foley, (Front L-R) Brandi Ledbetter, Ashley Lowery, Mary Katherine Price.

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Community program will feed the needy—including students

Cornerstone Full Gospel Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa Ministerial Alliance, and Community Service Programs of West Alabama, Inc. (CSP) have partnered to feed Tuscaloosa's hungry. This project, initiated by Bishop Ernest L. Palmer, will provide food boxes to needy families of Tuscaloosa County. Food boxes have also been allotted for Greene County, a county which is included in CSP's service area.

The food boxes, which feed a family of four (4), will be distributed on Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at Cornerstone Full Gospel

Baptist Church, 610 Brooksdale Drive, from 10:00am until 2:00pm. It is necessary to provide proof of income at the time of application and the food voucher. Students are encouraged to apply.

Food Vouchers can be received at Cornerstone Full Gospel Baptist Church and Community Service Programs of West Alabama, Inc.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Devin Hardy at (205) 345-4893 or Sontonia Stephens at (205) 752-5429, ext 218.

Nursing students show the way in blood drive

By Lynn Keeton,
Special to the Courier

On October 4-5, 2005, Shelton State Community College held a blood drive, sponsored by United Blood Services. The turnout was very good. On October 4th, 45 units of blood were received, and on October 5th, another 45 units were collected, for a total of 90 units for both days. Although the goal was 100 units, the 90 units collected will help to save many lives, officials said.

The students and faculty that participated in the blood drive were very eager to help and donate. Amy Marable, a student in the LPN Program at Shelton State, said she decided to give blood "because I have a rare blood type." She also said that she has given three times per year since she was 18 years old. Marable urged others to give blood as well because "it is not as

bad as people think it is."

Chad Sherron, also a student in the LPN program at Shelton, said he decided to donate because it was "for a good cause" and it was



Chad Sherron, a student in the LPN program, was happy to donate blood at the latest blood drive.

worth "points on a test." Sherron also added that this was his third time to donate.

Latonya Cole, from United Blood Services, said "Thanks to Shelton State for their help to their community."

Nursing From Page 2

always remember R.T. and his love for his son", said Sanyoz. "His son saved him with 20 foot waves crashing around as his boat came apart. I will never forget this man as he tried to hold back tears but let them flow as his love flowed out for his son: they survived."

On Monday, the students returned to class here at Shelton State. Kevin Burns was invited to attend the class in order to hear the students discuss their experiences at the Rec. Center. Each student had her own story to tell. Several students shared their stories and many were moved to tears. Of the 700 evacuees at the shelter, over 300 of them had lost family members. Some told of families who had 20 to 50 members staying at the center. It is stories like these that will

remain with the students throughout their careers and inspire them to continue their important work.

All of the evacuees have now been moved from the Rec. Center. Some have returned to their what remains of their homes, others went elsewhere to stay with loved ones, and many have remained here in Tuscaloosa in apartments, houses and trailers. Children have returned to school and hopefully the

victims will be able to once again attain a sense of normalcy.

Volunteer work is, by definition, done without expect for reward. The nursing stu-

dents from Shelton State certainly expected no remuneration for their deeds. But the experience they gained from their work will undoubtedly stay with them forever and help keep them focused on what nursing is really about: helping others. We should all be proud of the volunteers, not just because they represent Shelton in such a positive manner, but because they exhibited the very best of the human spirit.



Nursing student Kimberly Sawyer was one of 14 who volunteered at the U.A. Rec. Center.

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Served with two sides

Thursday

Beef Tips and Rice 6.95
Served with two sides

BBQ From Page 1

of silent auctions from the year before, some 64 items. We had the largest amount donated from sponsors and the largest number of them participating. We also had the largest amount of door prizes. another great thing was the number of new attendees there, people who had never been to the campus before."

Drummond singled out for honor the recently retired chairman of the

National Bank of commerce, Tommy Hester, who emceed the event for the 14th straight time. He was ailing with a knee problem, but he hung in there and made the bingo the fun event the way only he can," Drummond said.

All of the volunteers, the members of the Shelton State Foundation board and the Shelton Ambassadors were great, too. And I want to also mention Maxine Perry of the Foundation Office, whose tireless efforts and enthusiasm make the whole thing possible."



Shelton State Ambassadors guard the prized silent auction prize at this years BBQ Bash. Almost \$3000 was taken in on the vehicles, including a riding lawnmower.



After 25 years of loyal service to the college, Betty Walker retired and a small ceremony was held for her on Oct. 13. Many of her fellow employees and her family were on hand to congratulate Betty. A long time secretary to former Dean Arthur Howington, much of the good-natured kidding alluded to her saintly patience over the years. President Rick Rogers (above) MC'd the event calling upon several of Betty's compatriots including Dr. Milady Murphee, Debbie Grimes, and her current boss Mike Fields.

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Momentous year for musician ended in his death

By Dr. Jim Kenny,
Publisher

The secret of Justin's life and death are revealed in the lyrics of his songs:

*"The beauty of life I can
see,
But it passes by oh so
quickly,
Tear me apart, no matter
where I start
To assume life is worth liv-
ing
Is the most important of
all."*

Justin Miles Kenny, a 2000 Shelton State grad, was a cross between Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan and Cool Hand Luke. He could put on a stage show and drive home a lyric like Springsteen; he told his life's story in every song he ever wrote like Dylan. And just like that movie anti-hero created by Paul Newman in the '70s, Justin had his run-ins with the law and stays in jail for no good, rational reason.

Justin was most vulnerable when he was the happiest. Before he died at age 27 in Duncannon, Pa., on July 9, he had just enjoyed a fabulous Fourth of July weekend with his fiancée Emily Delzell and, by all reports, had been whooping it up with fellow Appalachian Trail hikers at a "feed" for that closely knit outdoor community.

Then he got hit by a train. Was he asleep on the tracks, had he let the train get too close in a post-party funk and allowed it to happen? Did a fellow reveler knock him in the head and set the scene to look like an accident? With Justin any of the three or any other scenario one could imagine is possible.

As he was walking away from Emily on July 5, with her heading back to

Birmingham and him back on the trail, he turned around and came back. "I was just thinking what I would say to you, if I knew this would be the last time I saw you," Emily quotes Justin. Similarly, Justin called his father that week and just chit-chatted about bears and camping and the stars above in the mountains. His father thought the call

of the 2,400 before his untimely demise, and he said he was very happy about his progress and the life-altering, uplifting experience.

*"I've got a destination,
but I still don't know where
I'm going."*

*I keep on looking up as
I'm falling down."*

Though he made friends

and somehow conveyed it to his friends and family. He often couldn't understand it himself when things went wrong.

Through it all Justin used the open road, the hiking trail, a canoe trip, a mountain climb or the like as an antidote to the negative feelings he often had toward life and society.

*"Another rainy night,
another lonesome road
Salvation is the overpass; I
got a restless feeling in my
soul."*

*Just another stranger, just
another town,
Just another dive I'm in, so
let's have another round.*

*Been walking the line
between the lost and found.
Got the wind and the rain
to ease my pain, but I'm
feeling good so if it's all the
same,
I'll keep looking up as I'm
falling down."*

Justin's musical ability, his love of outdoors and his insistent personality manifested themselves early. His father enjoys telling the story of how Justin corrected his household humming of popular movie tunes at about age 5. "No, dad, 'Star Wars' is this... 'Superman' is this... 'The Never-Ending Story' goes like this..." Justin said, obviously hearing the notes clearly in his head.

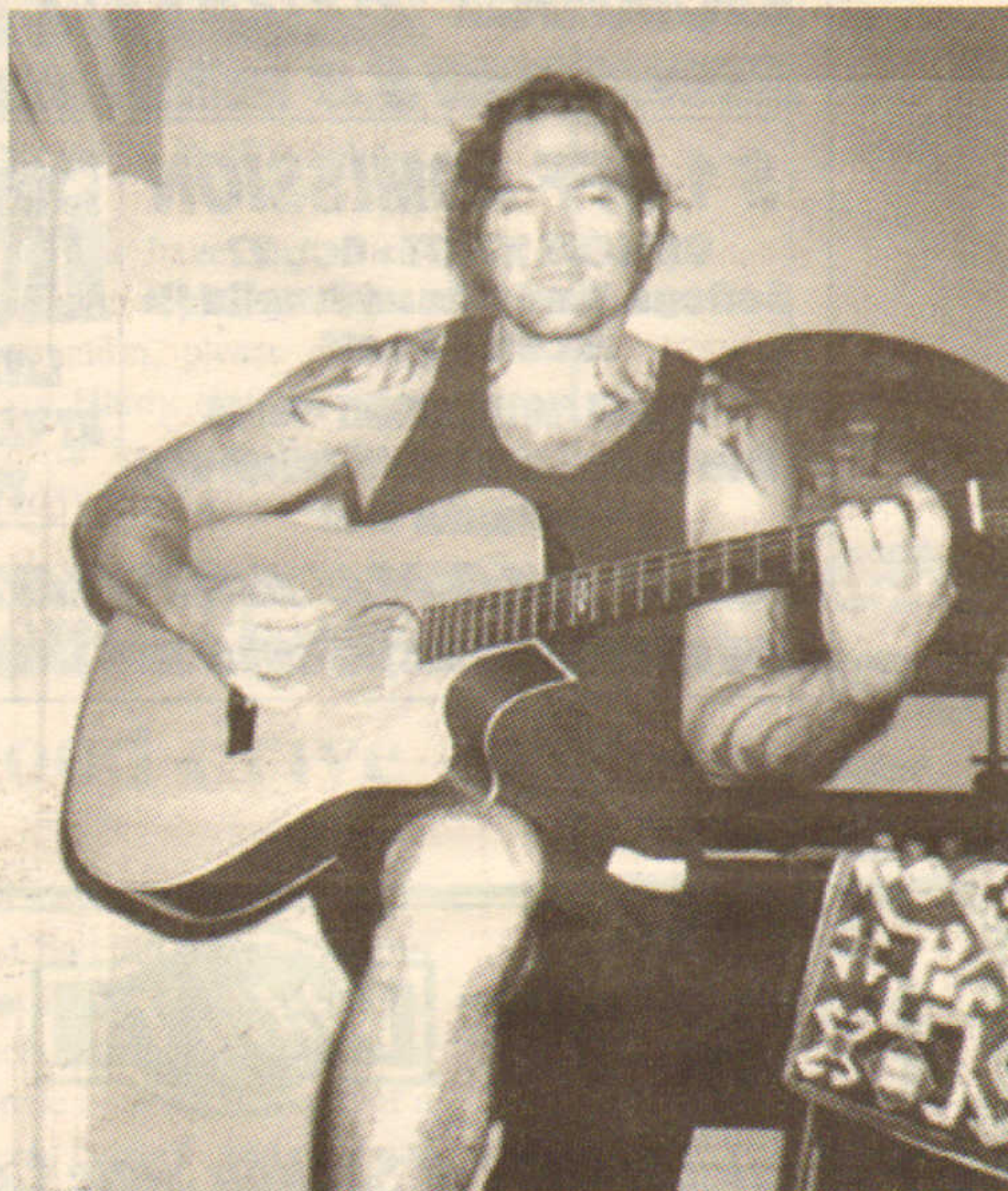
When his mother and father picked him up at camp he came trundling down the lane with a bass as big as he. Knowing how irrepressible he was, his dad held his breath until they left, glad no

other little boy came running up to claim the trophy.

Justin's innate drive to experience and experiment had unfortunate consequences at times which he normally tried to make the best of in the long run. For instance, he taught himself guitar while in drug rehab at 16. While living with his father in Las Vegas for a few months in 1997, he turned his separation from friends into the inspiration for his earliest songs, one of which "Call Home to Alabam" his father always told him would be his first hit. "Nah, man, that's sappy," he would say later, usually refusing to play it again. That tune and many of his earliest others are currently lost to the world.

What's available can be heard at a web site Emily and a friend prepared just after his death. They can be heard, and pictures of Justin can be seen at studio33.com/justin. Justin and Emily planned to be married near his birthday Oct. 6, move to Nashville (where he had once lived a few tumultuous months in the mid-90s), and turn his current songs and his future writing toward the country mode he began with.

What's on-line is hard-edged, sometimes vulgar. It is a poet and a singer in pain, falling down. Knowing Justin, though, it's a certainty he was looking up even in the end.



Singer-songwriter Justin Kenny died this past summer at age 27.

uncharacteristically breezy, a just-checking-in conversation his adventurer-musician son never indulged in. He is forever grateful, though, that the last words each said to the other were, "I love you."

Justin's life was filled with irony and contradiction, with nothing more paradoxical than that his death came at the end of the best year of his life. He had always wanted to front his own band and he pulled that off last December in Birmingham, playing a few gigs with his group Separate Species before losing his drummer and deciding to take on the famous A.T. from April to October. He had hiked a thousand miles

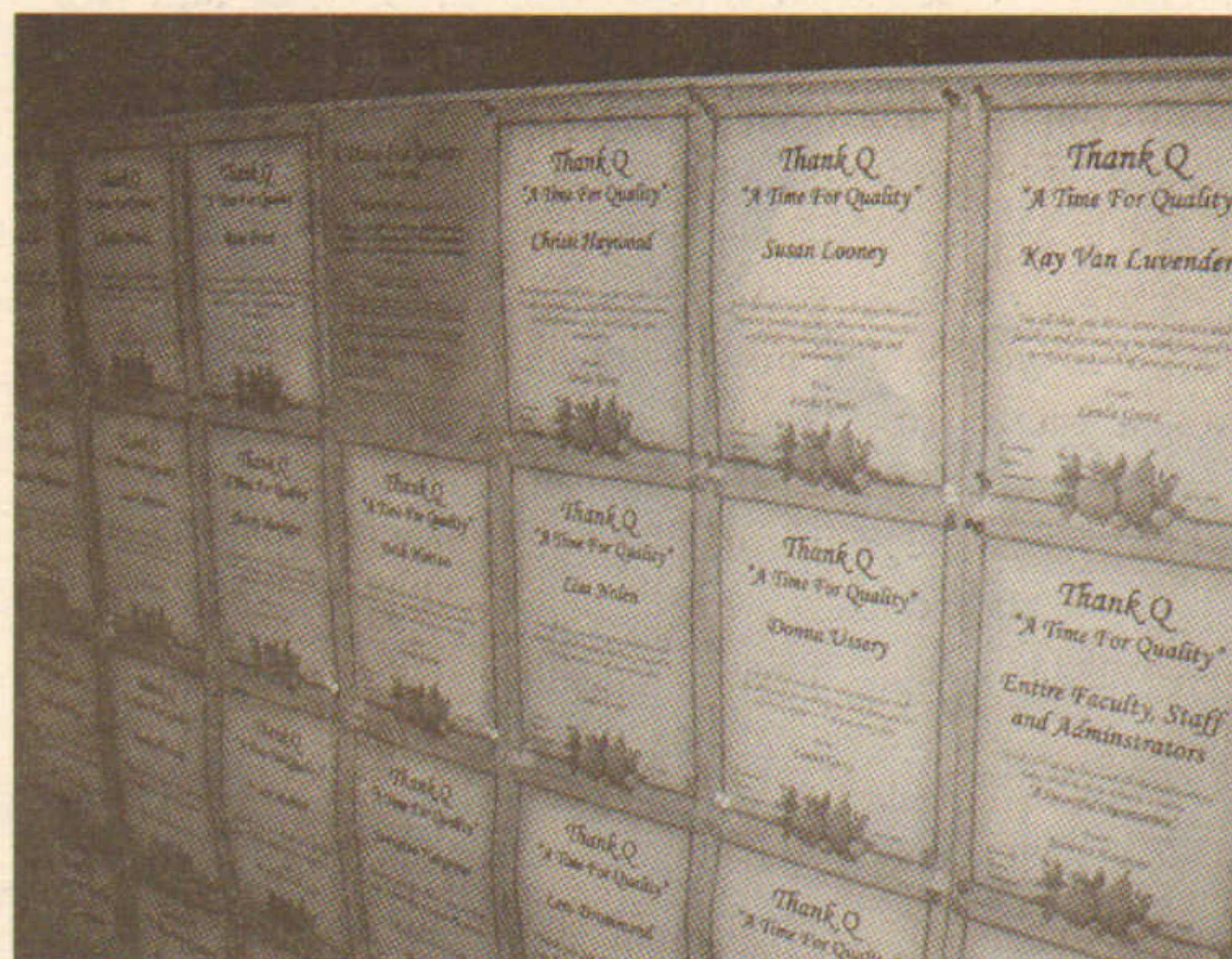
easily, Justin was not an easy-going fellow. He would usually test the patience and endurance of his closest pals with his uncompromising, hard-edged behavior, often taken over that edge by his binging indulgence in alcohol. A life-long health nut (his Shelton State certificate is as a personal trainer, though he also studied music at the college) who usually drank only water, both his music and his exasperating behavior, when it came, were usually fueled by drinking episodes of epic proportions. When those happened and some negative consequences ensued, Justin was loath to apologize, though he was clearly sorry



Justin and his fiancée Emily traveled together frequently during the last year of his life.

Quality program now year-round

News from Phi Theta Kappa



The ThankQ's already up in the atrium is usually the first sign that Quality Month is upon us. This year Quality Month has been extended to a year-round program.

As the flyer issued by the Quality Council says, there have been too many programs created for Quality Month to remain an October-only program. So starting this year, "A Time for Quality," with its team-building and work-honoring events have been scheduled the year round.

Two of the most popular events, though, are still scheduled for this month: the Thank Q's now up in the atrium, which give fellow employees a chance to acknowledge each other's supportive efforts, and the nearly legendary Halloween Costume Contest scheduled for Oct. 28.

The costume contest has been so humorous and well-received that many of its con-

testants have been featured as the lead picture on the front page of the Courier. The newspaper will be watching closely this year to see if participants are as news worthy.

Other events include the Penny Drop in the atrium from Nov. 1-30. Three teams will be competing: faculty, staff and students. Participants can help their team by putting coins in their jar and hurt the other by putting paper money in theirs. But no matter how fiendish Sheltonians play, the winners will be the survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

On Nov. 10 Teams Who Cook will compete in creativity as well as tastiness.

Dec. 6 will feature a bake

sale.

Jan. 25 will give us the perennial favorite Paper Airplane Contest, including a separate runway and takeoff on the Fredd campus.

The Breakfast of Champions will be held in February.

March 16 is the date held for the student favorite Spring Fling.

And the other student favorite—with a \$500 book scholarship up for grabs—the Shelton State Idol singing contest will take place in April.

So keep your eyes open when you pass through or above the atrium, for you never know what Quality event will reach up and grab you.

We are beginning fall recruitment for students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or greater. If you have a student that does not receive a letter they feel they are eligible please have them see Claire Brock, Julia Speights, ext. 2948, or John Speights, ext. 2431.

The SSCC Chapter of PTK will be selling Susan Koman bracelets to raise money as well as awareness for breast cancer research during the month of October. You can purchase a bracelet for \$3 from any of the members or officers that have them or from Julia

Speights, John Speights or Claire Brock. All proceeds above the bracelet cost will go to the Koman Foundation.

As a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society AND for our chapter we will be selling cookbooks for \$10 from mid October until all 200 are gone. There are approximately 800 collected recipes from Alabama Regional and International PTK members and advisors. Think about one or two of these as a Christmas, birthday, or thank you gift! Ask any officer, member or advisor.

Auditions for the ever-popular Theatre Tuscaloosa production *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* will be held Oct. 24 and 25 at the theatre. This will be a "cold read" audition, so no particular preparation is necessary. Eighteen children's roles and eight adult roles are up for grabs. More information is available on-line at theatretusc.com.

DUNKIN'S PHARMACY



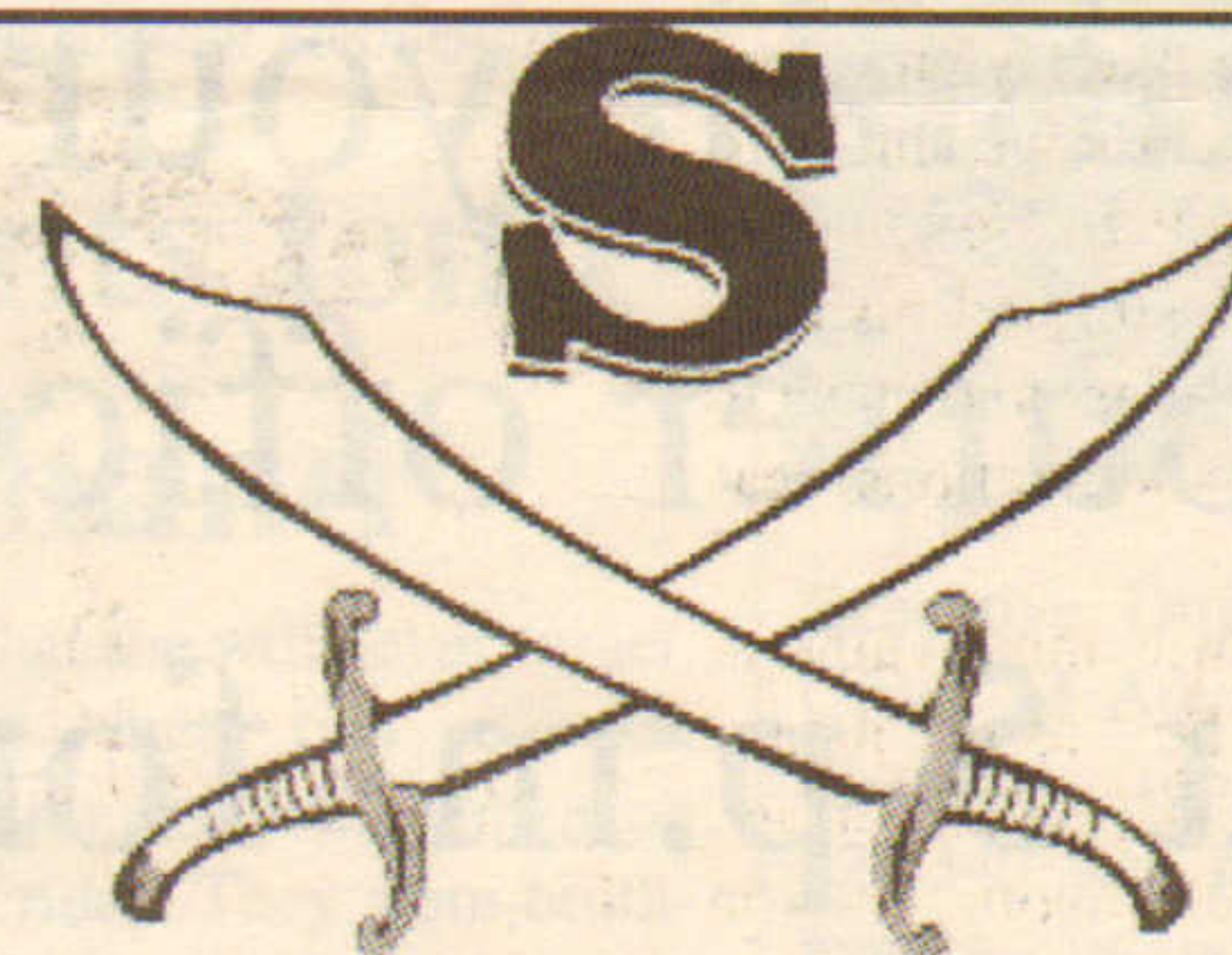
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Thursday, October 27, 2005

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Alabama State Fire College holds memorial service for fallen heroes

By Bo Carver

On Sunday October 9th, 2005, the Alabama Fire College hosted the first annual Alabama fire fighter memorial service. Under a blue fall sky in front of a tranquil pool, the ceremony began. Friends and family members came to give respect to fire fighters who gave their lives in service. Speakers Jim Walker, Director of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security, and Senator Phil Poole spoke. Then a memorial service for ten firemen lost in the line of

duty was lead by Chief Robert Ezekiel of the city of Mountain Brook. Ten folded flags representing these fallen heroes were presented to their families with the ringing of a ceremonial bell. The service concluded with a traditional rendition of "Amazing Grace" played on bag pipes.

The ten fallen fire fighters are as follows with year of their death:

Jerry W. Austin, 2003, Albertville Fire Department
Franklyn L. Bailey, 2004, Selma/ Dallas County Fire Department
John Lowell Boyer, 2003, Decatur Fire

Department

Marvin J. Cates, 1937, Birmingham Fire and Rescue Services

Walter Berry Fair, 1937, Birmingham Fire and Rescue Services

Davy Joe Judge, 2004, Hunstville Fire Department

Clinton L. Romine, 2004, Good Springs Fire Department

Denson A. Roy, 2004, Bessemer Fire Department

Barry Wayne Smith, 2003, Jasper Fire Department

Robert Smith, 2004, West Shelby Fire Department



Tributes to the fallen firemen came in all ages and sizes during the mermoral service at the Alabama Fire College on Oct. 9.

Want to be the next King?

Submit your artistic endeavors to the Courier office (Rm. 2319) by Nov. 28 at 5 p.m. for inclusion in this year's *Maxwell's Crossing*, Shelton State's (and the *Courier's*) fine arts publication.

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